

What is claimed is:

1. A semiconductor optical device comprising:

a waveguide layer including two cladding layers and an active layer sandwiched between the two cladding layers; and

5 a reflecting multi-layer film formed on at least one of a pair of opposing end faces of the waveguide layer,

wherein a summation  $\sum n_i d_i$  of products  $n_i d_i$  of refractive index  $n_i$  and film thickness  $d_i$  of a layer denoted with  $i$ -th the reflecting multi-layer film, and a wavelength  $\lambda_0$  of light guided through the waveguide layer satisfies a  
10 relationship:

$$\sum n_i d_i > \lambda_0 / 4,$$

wherein a first wavelength bandwidth  $\Delta\lambda$  is wider than a second wavelength bandwidth  $\Delta\Lambda$ , the first wavelength bandwidth  $\Delta\lambda$  being a wavelength range including the wavelength  $\lambda_0$  in which a reflectance  $R$  of the  
15 reflecting multi-layer film is not higher than +2.0% from reflectance  $R$  at the wavelength  $\lambda_0$ , the second wavelength bandwidth  $\Delta\Lambda$  being a wavelength range including the wavelength  $\lambda_0$  in which a reflectance  $R'$  of a hypothetical layer is not higher than +2.0% from reflectance  $R'$  at the wavelength  $\lambda_0$  of a hypothetical layer having a thickness of  $5\lambda_0/(4n_f)$  of a refractive index  $n_f$  formed on the at  
20 least one of opposing end faces satisfies a relationship:

$$R' = ((n_c - n_f)^2 / (n_c + n_f)^2)^2,$$

wherein the  $n_c$  denotes an effective refractive index of the waveguide layer.

2. A semiconductor optical device comprising:

a waveguide layer including two cladding layers and an active layer  
25 sandwiched between the two cladding layers; and

a reflecting multi-layer film formed on at least one of a pair of opposing end faces of the waveguide layer,

wherein a summation  $\sum n_i d_i$  of products  $n_i d_i$  of refractive index  $n_i$  and film thickness  $d_i$  of a layer denoted with  $i$  in the reflecting multi-layer film, and a wavelength  $\lambda_0$  of light guided through the waveguide layer satisfies a relationship:

$$\sum n_i d_i > \lambda_0/4,$$

wherein a ratio  $\Delta\lambda/\lambda_0$  is not lower than 0.062, the reflectance  $R$  in the bandwidth  $\Delta\lambda$  ranges from -1.0% to +2.0% of the reflectance  $R$  at the wavelength  $\lambda_0$ .

3. A semiconductor optical device comprising:

a waveguide layer including two cladding layers and an active layer sandwiched between the two cladding layers; and

a reflecting multi-layer film formed on at least one of a pair of opposing end faces of the waveguide layer,

wherein a summation  $\sum n_i d_i$  of products  $n_i d_i$  of refractive index  $n_i$  and film thickness  $d_i$  of a layer denoted with  $i$  in the reflecting multi-layer film, and a wavelength  $\lambda_0$  of light guided through the waveguide layer satisfies a relationship:

$$\sum n_i d_i > \lambda_0/4,$$

wherein a ratio  $\Delta\lambda/\lambda_0$  is not lower than 0.066, the reflectance  $R$  in the bandwidth  $\Delta\lambda$  ranges from -1.5% to +1.0% of the reflectance  $R$  at the wavelength  $\lambda_0$ .

4. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein the reflecting multi-layer film includes a first film having a refractive index larger

than a square root of an effective refractive index  $n_c$  of the waveguide layer and a second film having a refractive index smaller than the square root of the effective refractive index  $n_c$ .

5 5. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 4, wherein the first reflecting film and the second reflecting film are layered alternately.

6. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein a first-layer film of the reflecting multi-layer film, which is in contact with the waveguide layer has a refractive index smaller than a square root of an effective refractive index  $n_c$  of the waveguide layer.

10 7. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein the reflecting multi-layer film includes at least three layers made of material different from each other.

8. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein the reflecting multi-layer film includes seven films.

15 9. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein the reflecting multi-layer film includes six films.

10. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein the reflecting multi-layer film includes nine films.

20 11. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein a first-layer film of the reflecting multi-layer film in contact with the waveguide layer has the highest heat conductivity in the films in the reflecting multi-layer film.

12. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein a first-layer film of the reflecting multi-layer film is in contact with the waveguide layer made of aluminum nitride.

25 13. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein a minimal

value of the reflectance of the reflecting multi-layer film is within range from 1% to 32%.

14. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein first-layer film, which is in contact with the waveguide layer, and second-layer film of the  
5 reflecting multi-layer film have a refractive index smaller than a square root of an effective refractive index  $n_c$  of the waveguide layer.

15. A semiconductor optical device according to claim 1, wherein the reflecting multi-layer film includes eight films.